Statement

Average yield of major crops during 1997-98

(Yield-Kg/hectare)

State	Rice	Wheat	Total Pulses	Total Food-grains	Oilseeds	Sugar-cane	Cotton
Andhra Pradesh	2412	—	391	1677	583	71531	246
Assam	1394	1167	575	1342	551	42424	—
Bihar	1414	2031	763	1525	650	37176	—
Gujarat	1548	2471	737	1365	1323	71935	317
Haryana	2797	3684	879	2696	835	53169	301
Himachal Pradesh	1329	1507	698	1577	444	34750	—
Jammu & Kashmir	2986	1600	710	2042	646	—	—
Karnataka	2356	777	261	1185	567	87066	323
Kerala	2033	—	864	1941	611	90167	283
Madhya Pradesh	812	1625	648	972	949	37679	306
Maharashtra	1630	904	381	764	692	76000	395
Orissa	1392	—	368	1202	508	58524	278
Punjab	3465	3850	690	3597	1204	56202	220
Rajasthan	1166	2500	595	1021	745	50391	229
Tamil Nadu	2987	—	488	2045	1253	110542	276
Uttar Pradesh	2148	2594	839	2077	804	59430	227
West Bengal	2275	2403	658	2216	873	71500	—
ALL INDIA	1906	2515	573	1561	849	66547	214

Drought Affected Districts of Orissa

476. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) the names and the number of districts in Orissa affected by drought during this year;

(b) the relief and rehabilitation measures undertaken in those districts; and

(c) the details of the Central assistance extended to the State for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL):

(a) The Government of Orissa has stated that the names and number of districts affected by drought can be known after receipt of final crop loss assessment reports from the districts. However, according to them, preliminary estimates indicate that about one-third of the total area of the State has been severely affected by drought during this year.

(b) The State Government had reportedly allotted Rs. 1870.89 lakhs out of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to different Departments towards various drought mitigation measures.

(c) The entire Central Share of CRF for 1998-99 amounting to Rs. 40.77 crore has already been released to the State in connection with the relief & rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities.

Productivity of Agricultural Inputs

477. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether contribution to growth of agricultural producation from the productivity of inputs has declined to about 30% in the late 1980's;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for this declining level;

(c) whether it is a fact that proper extension services are not available to farmers on use of inputs; and

(d) what steps have been taken to arrest this declining trend of productivity of agricultural inputs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The productivity of inputs in agriculture sector at constant prices in 1989-90 is 2.7% higher than that in 1980-81.

(c) No, Sir. The farmers are educated about judicious and timely use of inputs through training, infield guidance, demonstrations, exposure visits etc. Besides, such educational efforts are intensified further through print/mass media support and organisation of exhibitions and field days. State Departments of Agriculture, the State Agriculture Universities, ICAR Institutes and other agencies like NGOs, Co-operatives, Farmers' organisations input agencies etc. are engaged in this task.

(d) In order to increase the production and productivity of various crops in the country, the Government is implementing crop specific development programmes and schemes in which incentives are provided to farmers for use of quality seeds and location specific hybrid varieties, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements. Besides, field demonstration on farmers holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Besides, Government is also providing price and market support to the farmers by announcing the Minimum Support Prices for major crops and making arrangements for the procurement through the nodal agencies. The subsidised supply of fertilisers also encourages its consumption resulting in higher production and productivity.

Distribution of Seeds in the Country

478. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that old obsolete and substandard varieties of seeds are frequently distributed and used in India;

(b) what is the estimated loss due to use of substandard seeds;

(c) what measures have been taken to establish stringent quality control system to ensure regular supply of new, improved and more productive seeds and to ensure that good quality seeds do not siphon off to private agencies; and

(d) what steps have been taken to make the centralised system of production and supply of seeds, more flexible to adjust to the local needs of the farmers?